

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please add the following new paragraph at page 1 after the title as follows:

CROSS-REFERENCE TO PRIORITY APPLICATIONS

This application is the U.S. national phase of international application PCT/IT00/00314 filed July 25, 2000, which designated the U.S., which claims priority from Switzerland Application No. 1381/99 filed July 27, 1999, the contents of which are incorporated herein by reference in their entireties.

Please amend the third paragraph on page 10 as follows:

This application is implemented by testing the samples every day and observing all the petals after completing sample collection so as to establish whether the crystallisation occurs in a regular manner (using + or – to indicate early or late crystallisation, as the case may be), as, for instance, illustrated schematically in Figure [[1]] 4. If crystallisation does not occur at any time in one or more cycles, this will be a clear indicator of a hormone abnormality which the specialist will need to investigate.

Please amend the following table at page 12:

RESEARCH COMPARING VARIOUS METHODS FOR
DETERMINING THE DAY OF OVULATION (UKRAINE)

Aim of the research: identifying the ovulation phase comparing the saliva crystallisation method with various other "physiological" methods (cervical mucus testing, basal temperature, pupil measurement, oestrogen assay) in a group of about 500 women.

Country	Ukraine
Date of study	1993-94
N. of researchers	8
N. of women	514 (aged 15-46)
Cycles observed	5,498 (mean:10.7)
Dropouts	42 (8.2%)
Results:	
Crystallisation ⁽¹⁾	428 (91%)
Cervical mucus ⁽²⁾	398 (84%)
Pupil measurement ⁽³⁾	364 (77%)
Oestrogen assay [[⁽⁴⁾]]	472 (100%)

- ⁽¹⁾ Cases in which the fertile phase (ovulation period) was detected by crystallisation of saliva, coinciding with oestrogen levels[[⁽⁴⁾]] in the appropriate range: peak value $\pm 10\%$.
- ⁽²⁾ Detection of the fertile phase according to the Billings Method, as checked by oestrogen levels[[⁽⁴⁾]]: peak value $\pm 15\%$.
- ⁽³⁾ Detection of pupil dilatation, as checked by oestrogen values[[⁽⁴⁾]]: peak value $\pm 10\%$.